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OLDEST AGRICULTURAL PUBLICATION IN THE STATE.

The Maryland Farmer.

A Weekly for the Farmer, Fruit-Grower & Stock-Raiser.

Vol. XXVII.

BALTIMORE, December 26, 1890.

No. 52.

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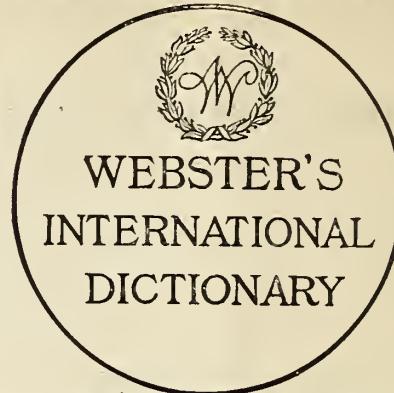
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A LONG WINTER

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The Maryland Farmer.

Vol. XXVII.

BALTIMORE, December 26, 1890.

No. 52.

PRODUCTION OF EGGS.

Some time ago reference was made in these columns regarding the average number of eggs laid by the various breeds of poultry. The correctness of the statement—which was substantially that a hen that laid 150 eggs per year was making a good showing—was questioned by a few readers, and to substantiate the position taken by the writer, an estimate is given herewith. It is from the pen of Mr. L. P. Simonds, a gentleman whose many years experience as a breeder causes him to be quoted as an authority upon all matters pertaining to poultry. Following is the estimate:

Light Brahmans and partridge Cochins, seven to the pound,

the pound, 30 to 60 per annum. Ducks, five and six to the pound, 50 to 60 per annum. Geese, four to the pound, 20 per annum. Guinea fowls, eleven to the pound, 60 per annum.

Mr. Simonds also gives us his opinion that the eggs of the modern improved breeds of fowls have gained one-third in weight as compared with the eggs of former years. This is undoubtedly correct, all the great hue and cry that modern breeders are breeding for appearance and feather instead of eggs and flesh, to the contrary notwithstanding.

The figures as given here may be taken as substantially a standard. To be sure the egg production will increase or



one hundred per annum. Dark Brahmans, eight to the pound, seventy to one hundred per annum. Black, White and Buff Cochins, eight to the pound, 100 per annum. Plymouth Rocks, eight to the pound, 150 to 175 per annum. Houdans, seven to the pound, 150 to 170 per annum. La Fleche, seven to the pound, about 130 per annum. Black Spanish, seven to the pound, about 175 per annum. Dominiques, nine to the pound, 130 per annum. Game fowls, nine to the pound, 130 per annum. Crevecoeurs, seven to the pound, 150 per annum. Leghorns, nine to the pound, 150 to 200 per annum. Hamburgs, nine to the pound, 175 per annum. Polish, nine to the pound, 175 per annum. Bantams, sixteen to the pound, 60 per annum. Turkeys, five to

decrease from these figures under certain conditions. Climate, feeding and general care should be considered before the correctness of the estimate is questioned. Put a flock of Leghorns—veritable summer egg machines, even with ordinary care—into the hands of a shiftless or indifferent person, and the estimate given here will be very materially decreased, as the writer's own knowledge readily testifies. Take a fowl that will under ordinary circumstances lay from 100 to 150 eggs annually, and give her the best of care and careful breeding, as is the case with every practical and conscientious breeder, and to a thinking person the resultant increase in egg-laying will not occasion any great amount of surprise.—*American Farmer.*

THE MARYLAND FARMER.

—o—
A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE AGRICULTURAL,
HORTICULTURAL AND STOCK-RAISING INTERESTS.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26th, 1890.

COCOANUT BUTTER.

And now genins and science have discovered butter in the cocoanut and are getting it out. The process was discovered some five years ago, and it is announced that factories are about to be established in Paris and Amsterdam. It seems that the butter is growing in popularity and that the sales are increasing. There is at present manufactured about five thousand pounds per day. It is stated that the butter contains from sixty to seventy per cent. of fat and about twenty-five per cent. of organic matter, of which something like ten per cent. is albumen. It is said to be preferred in the houses of the poor to oleomargarine and the *Rural and Stockman* is free to confess that it must be mighty poor stuff if it is not better than our bogus butter. In the nature of things, it would be preferable to oleomargarine and butterine, if a substitute for butter is to be used at all. In the houses of the European poor these cheap substitutes for good food find a much readier sale than they do in this country. There is not much danger however, of cocoanut butter ever coming into the American market. Our people—of all classes—are satisfied with the cow as a butter machine. We would have to import it, if we had it at all, and if that is attempted we will see Mr. McKinley about it.

EDITORIAL.

A NEW VOLUME.

With this number the MARYLAND FARMER closes the twenty-seventh year of its existence. During the time it has been before the public, it has constantly aimed to serve the best interests of the farmers, and has, it believes, met with a fair degree of success in its endeavor.

For the future, it is enough to promise the good faith of the past. We shall strive to furnish the latest and best information on all subjects of interest to the agricultural community, and upon the questions which are now confronting the farmers and which have been brought into prominence by the growing strength and importance of the tillers of the soil in national matters. We hope to favor a wise conservative cause, free from extensive and visionary views. A cause which also will secure the fruits of victory, not for politicians and schemers but for the farmers themselves.

THE SOUTH IN LUCK.

We print in this week's issue an article from *The Cornucopia* published in Norfolk, Virginia, entitled the "South in Luck." It is unquestionable that the Old Dominion is enjoying a season of unexampled prosperity, of which the farmers are getting their fair share. Abundant crops and good prices are the rule, and these have produced a comfortable and healthy circulation of the coin of the realm. Virginia is beginning to feel her strength and know her possibilities and with wise conduct must make great strides in the future. The boundless tide of capital and immigration which has been flowing to the West and Northwest, could find in the South a far greater field for profitable action. Already the well directed efforts that have been expended to give the natural advantages of this section proper publicity, have borne fruit, and all over the South are evidences of activity and growing wealth.

TAXATION OF MORTGAGES.

Farmers generally all over the State are complaining about the depression in real estate. Lately a farm of 87 acres in Frederick County was offered for sale and withdrawn at a bid of about \$400. Yet the same and was assessed at \$1500, and taxes paid on that basis. One cause for the present depression and stagnation is the unjust tax law. Now the farmer pays taxes on the whole value of his farm although it may be subject to a heavy mortgage on which he is paying a stiff rate of interest, which the mortgagee escapes scot free of taxes and lays back at his ease and complacently regards the struggles of the poor mortgagor. The tendency of such laws as this is to lock capital up in non-taxable investments to the detriment of live business enterprises. Let the mortgagees and capitalists be taxed as is right and then they would be willing to put their money in enterprises that will benefit the community. The farmers of State should combine and make a strong fight upon the question of taxing mortgages. Satisfactory legislation has been adopted upon the matter in other States, and found to work well in practice. We need something of the sort in Maryland.

ENSILAGE.

Considering the great extent to which the creamery business has reached in some parts of Maryland, we propose to pay particular attention to ensilage. In some parts of the country, this food has able advocates, while there are others who decry it. If it is the half what is claimed for it, it is surely a blessing to the farmers. We hope our columns will be used with the same freedom with which we take pleasure in offering them for correspondence on this subject.

Ensilage is used, not only to indicate the process of preserving fodder, but also as a noun, and applied by writers to the fodder that is thus preserved. The process of ensilage consists in packing green corn fodder, or any other succulent fodder, in close pits or receptacles, called silos. It is essential that the silos be perfectly air-tight. They may be built in either of many methods. They may be built entirely above ground, partly below the surface, or altogether underground, in the form of a well or pit; the important point being to have a thoroughly air-tight receptacle.

In the fodder corn we have a mass of succulent stems and foliage in which preparation has been made for the production of grain. These are filled with juices holding in solution the material that would soon be deposited in the grain as starch, etc., but now largely in the form of sugar. When the corn plant is cut and packed in the silo, fermentation, the first step in decay, at once begins. By the action of the oxygen of the air on the sugar and other contents of the stalks, etc., various changes take place, one of which is to produce carbonic acid. This acid is a gas, in which a candle cannot burn or any animal live, and in which no further fermentation can occur. If the silo is air-tight, the very first steps in the fermentation of its contents produce a gas that acts as a preservative and prevents further change. The more compact the fodder corn, the less air will there be among it, and the sooner will the fermentation stop. The fermentation not only acts upon and changes the composition of the air within the silo, but the fodder itself is acted upon and changed. Sugar, when present in the juices of the corn, is at first converted into alcohol; and if fermentation continues far enough, acetic acid, or vinegar, will be formed from the alcohol thus produced. If the silo is properly air-tight, and its contents cut fine and well packed and carefully covered, there can not be sufficient air present to allow fermentation to go on to an injurious extent. The idea is to preserve the contents of the silo in the most natural condition.

THE Gardener's Club of Baltimore, held a very interesting meeting this week, at which Mr. John Donn, read an exhaustive and instructive paper on chrysanthemums. Mr. Donn, is one of the leading chrysanthemum growers of the country, and his paper is of much practical importance to those interested in the development of that beautiful flower.

W. W. Meech of South Vineland, N. J., originator of the famous Meech Quince and author of a treatise on the quince, paid this office a visit on Christmas eve. Mr. Meech is enthusiastic over his favorite fruit, and says it is the most profitable thing that a farmer can raise. Mr. Meech had with him samples of a seedling apple grown by N. P. Potter of South Vineland, N. J., of remarkable keeping qualities. We expect shortly to give the readers of the FARMER some articles from the pen of this well-known horticulturist.

THE SOUTH IN LUCK.

Take the South throughout there is no general complaint of shortage on any crop. On the other hand, the crops, as a rule, are all good and prices are good also. The cotton, rice and tobacco crops are to bring in many millions of dollars to the South yet this fall.

Coming nearer home, this part of South is about to harvest the finest sweet potato and peanut crop, harvested for years. The price of both are better, and will hold better than for years. The old crop of peanuts is completely exhausted. The boys will begin on the new crop with wonderful appetites. The short fruit crop all around will stimulate the demand for peanuts—as "people will chew something, you know." The result will be 5 cents per pound for the entire crop.

Owing to the great shortage in the Irish potato crop all over the United States, and in fact all over the world, our fine crop of sweet potatoes will command a fine price. All these crops count. They bring great sums of money into the South. The accumulation of wealth by people in the South is to-day more rapid than has ever been known before in the United States. We have been speaking or writing mostly of the vegetable or agricultural wealth of the South. When we turn our attention to the mineral wealth and the immense wealth of valuable timber, and then add to this the money in the fish and oyster interests of Virginia, we are deeply impressed with its magnitude and importance. It is not an idle boast when we say that the coal, iron and timber wealth lying along the line of our railroads in the State of Virginia is sufficient for a kingdom. Cities are springing up as it were in a night all over the State—especially is this true of the mineral and timbered sections of the State. The rich valleys of Pennsylvania are continue right along through Virginia, and the mountain system Virginia, identical with that of Pennsylvania, is filled with the finest minerals in the United States.

Coal, iron, marble and limestone of the finest quality and in inexhaustible quantities lie all over the Southwest portions of Virginia. The Virginia climate being so much milder than that of Pennsylvania, gives our State a wonderful advantage. The Virginia farmer is in luck. He sees before him several years of unusual prosperity. The local demand for all crops raised in the State is increasing faster than the supply. The next twenty years is going to see all of Virginia, from the mountain tops to the sea, a great hive of industrial activity. Prices of all farm products are to rule higher. A general era of prosperity has set in. Hurrah for the "Old Dominion."—*The Cornucopia*.

FINE CROPS IN NORTH CAROLINA.—We doubt if ever the people of North Carolina were so blessed with fine crops as this fall. Cotton has yielded a bale to the acre wherever it had half a chance, and the corn crop has been very large. Tobacco, too, has yielded well. Corn and farm produce bring fine prices, but it is to be regretted that cotton has not held up.—*Raleigh (N. C.) News*.

THE Baltimore American has just issued a beautiful calendar for 1891. The American is abreast with the times, and is one of the best papers of the day.

A WHEAT SURPLUS.

Mr. John W. Bookwalter, of Ohio, is quoted as saying he thinks the next boom in the United States will be in farm lands. His reason for this is that we are now able to export only sufficient food to supply 5,000,000 foreigners, and our ability will keep on decreasing, so that in about half a dozen years more we shall have domestic wants equal to the consumption of all (the food) we raise. Then prices will go higher, it will pay to be a farmer, and there will be an increase in that class of the population. There is, literally speaking, no more West to occupy unless by the slow and expensive processes of reclaiming swamps or irrigating the now dry areas.

Mr. Bookwalter may be reasoning in the right direction when he anticipates a rise in the value of farming land now occupied, but he works from faulty premises. He talks only of the short wheat crop of the present year, ignoring other farm produce, and seems to regard the condition as a normal one. A fair average wheat crop, like that of last year, leaves fully 100,000,000 bushels for export. There is good ground for believing we should have raised as much this time but for the peculiarly unfavorable weather that marked the growing season, and that we may count on a yield equal to that of 1889 for future years which are not characterized by exceptionally bad crop conditions. That surplus of 100,000,000 bushels is sufficient to feed 30,000,000 of people annually instead of five, and the population of the United States is increasing only at the rate of about 2½ per cent. a year.

It is important to remember also that if the price of wheat should go up to stay two or three years the fact would furnish a stimulus to a large increase in production. Not only would the present wheat growing areas be broadened by lessening, if need be, the amount seeded to other cereals, but the States east of Illinois would find it profitable to raise wheat in large quantity and with both there may be ere long an extensive resort to the methods of culture which enable the Europeans to gather more wheat than we do from the average acre of better soil. Then there is room for a large increase from the far West, in California, Oregon and Washington. The latter has already entered so extensively into wheat culture that it has this year raised some 16,000,000 bushels east of the Cascades alone, and the movement from that region has had a great deal to do with causing the recent depression in prices in this market. Northwestern Canada could easily double her 20,000,000, while Russia and India could raise much more than now if stimulated by the fact of a better market, and France and even England would find it profitable to raise more.

The wheat growers of the United States would not find it difficult within a year or two to raise 150,000,000 more than they did in 1889, and it is not unreasonable to expect that such an augmented production would soon be realized in the event of an apparently permanent advance of 8 to 10 cents a bushel. Under similar encouragement other countries could swell the volume, it not in so great a ratio, at least more rapidly than demanded by the growth of their popula-

tion. There is thus no occasion to fear that the world's production of wheat will not be ample for all the needs of mankind for centuries to come, and the price to be paid will accommodate itself to the requirements and cause the production of more when more is wanted. It is only natural to expect that during the working out of this expansion farming lands will become more valuable, especially those which are situated comparatively near to the great centers of population that are waiting to be fed, but there need be no fear they will rise to starvation prices on account of a scarcity of the material raised on them. A greater area will be brought under cultivation, and it will be strange if the economies of the process are not so much improved as a result of scientific research that the same area will furnish food for a considerable percentage of increase in the number of consumers.

If the cereal growers of the United States can obtain for their produce free access to the markets of Pan-America, the change will bring with it a vast accession to the army of consumers of white bread. The number of eaters would in a very short time be increased by many millions, and it would not be wild to estimate the permanent effect as measurable by an advance of 8 to 10 cents per bushel in the value of the wheat of the United States. This is a result well worth working for by the farming community, they being the ones who would be most directly and favorably affected by the adoption of the policy of reciprocity between ourselves and the nations of the New World.—*Chicago Tribune.*

THE declaration of principles adopted at the national meeting of the Alliance, will challenge the admiration of every candid, thinking man throughout the entire nation. Its demands are simple, plain, practical, and entirely within the provisions of the Constitution. There is nothing revolutionary in their character, and they could be easily and cheaply administered. The convention acted wisely, honestly, and with moderation. These demands are limited almost entirely to the three great questions, land, transportation and currency. Upon these it speaks with no uncertain sound. No backward step has been taken, but a long stride in advance has been made. The sub treasury plan has been reaffirmed with the addition of loans upon real estate. This makes the financial proposition complete, and will tend to greatly strengthen the whole. With loans direct to the people upon land as the basis for a permanent addition to the circulation, and loans upon products to furnish that flexibility which all just systems of finance should possess, the Alliance can meet any and all objections with the most convincing arguments. The demands in regard to the means of transportation and communication have been strengthened by explicitly stating in terms not to be misunderstood the exact ultimatum. It is a platform upon which every honest man can stand. It is a demand for reforms that all candid men will endorse, and as a whole it constitutes a declaration of purposes that will lead the people out of their distress, and in the end bring peace and prosperity.—*National Economist.*

Alliance Page.

While this journal is not an official organ, of the Farmers' Alliance, it is in entire sympathy with that movement and heartily believes in a thorough and systematic organization among farmers to protect their interests. In this column, Alliance news will be presented, and matters akin to that movement discussed. Correspondence is cordially invited.

The Alliance officers, in this state and their addresses are President, Hugh Mitchell, Port Tobacco. Secretary, T. Canfield Jenkins, Pomonkey. State Lecturer, . . R. D. Bradley, Preston

Profoundly impressed that we, the Farmers Alliance, united by the strong and faithful ties of financial and home interests, should set forth our declaration of intentions, we therefore resolve:

1. To labor for the education of the agricultural classes in the science of economical government in a strictly non-partisan spirit.
2. To endorse the motto, "In things essential, unity; and in all things, charity."
3. To develop a better state, mentally, morally, socially, and financially.
4. To create a better understanding for sustaining civil officers in maintaining law and order.
5. To constantly strive to secure entire harmony and good will among all mankind, and brotherly love among ourselves.
6. To suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices all unhealthful rivalry and all selfish ambition.
7. The brightest jewels which it garners are the tears of widows and orphans, and its imperative commands are to visit the homes where lacerated hearts are bleeding; to assuage the sufferings of a brother or sister; bury the dead; care for the widows and educate the orphans; to exercise charity toward offenders; to construe words and deeds in their most favorable light, granting honesty of purpose and good intentions to others; and to protect the principles of the Alliance unto death. Its laws are reason and equity, its cardinal doctrines inspire purity of thought and life, its intentions are "peace on earth and good will toward men."—From the Constitution of the Maryland State Alliance.

THE THIRD PARTY CALL.

The third party movement, which originated at the recent Farmers' Alliance Convention, has taken definite form, and the following call for a convention given the press:

TOPEKA, KAN., Dec. 13—Whereas in unity there is strength, therefore it is desirable that there should be a union of all the variously named organizations that stand on common ground. To this end the individuals from various States which are here designated make this call for a national conference, to be composed of delegates from the following organizations, namely: The independent party; the people's party, by its representatives; the union labor party, by its representatives; the late Federal and Confederate soldiers, by their representatives; the Farmers' Alliance, the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, the Citizens' Alliance, the Knights of Labor, the colored Farmers' Alliance, and all other industrial organizations that support the principles of the St. Louis agreement of December, 1889. Each State organization to send one delegate from each congressional

district and two from the State at large, and each district organization to send not less than three delegates, and each county organization not less than one delegate, to be chosen according to the custom of each respective organization during the month of January, 1891; also, that the editor of each newspaper is hereby invited as a delegate that has advocated the principles of the St. Louis agreement and supported the candidates nominated thereon in 1890.

"The delegates to meet in the city of Cincinnati on Monday 23d day of February, 1891, at 2 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of forming a national union party based upon the fundamental ideas of finance, transportation, labor and land, and the transaction of other legitimate business, in furtherance of the work already begun by those organizations, preparatory to a united struggle for country and home in the great political conflict now pending that must decide who in this country is the sovereign—the citizen or the dollar."

The call is signed by representatives from the States of Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Virginia, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, North Dakota, North Carolina, South Dakota, Texas and Tennessee.

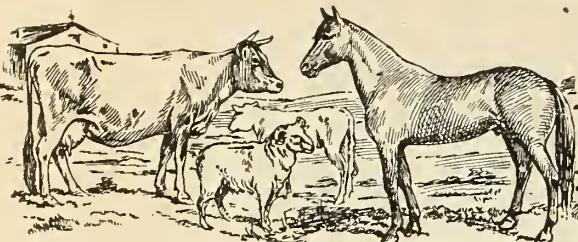
"SCARED TO DEATH."

The Western Rural, an active "farmers' rights" paper, of Chicago, under the above head, says:

Just a few more meetings of the Alliance and other farmers' organization will, we think, suffice to do what a portion of the people have been working to accomplish for many years; viz: get rid of all the politicians. If the farmers keep meeting and showing their teeth—figuratively speaking—as they have been doing for the last few weeks, there is good prospect of seeing every politician in the land scared absolutely to death. It is both amusing and inspiring to hear the comments of these fellows upon the proceedings of the farmers' conventions. They say that the farmer flushed with recent political success, is getting wild; that he will yet smash things all to pieces; that usually he is level-headed, but he has gone crazy, and a lot of such twaddle is constantly falling from the lips of the political ringsters, and in the meantime the farmer keeps right along strengthening his lines and marking out his future course. Again the *Western Rural* tells these moss-backed, treacherous political leaders that they have it wholly within their power to knock all the vigor out of the farmers' movement, if they choose to do it. Give the farmer what he wants and what he should have, and he will never lift a finger against you. But you will not do that. You are so wedded to your idols, the collar of the capitalists and the corruptionist is so firmly fastened to your necks that you cannot break away.

Your whole training has been with leeches that fatten upon the industries of the country. In Congress and in the State Legislatures you have been sitting and laughing for years, while the few have absorbed all the splendid aggregate of wealth that the farmer has produced from the fields. You have seen his prosperity declining year after year, and never lifted your hands or your voice to check the ruin, and you have been stupid enough to suppose that the producer would submit to poverty and see his children wronged without a remonstrance. You thought the farmer utterly devoid of the feelings of a man and of the spirit of a free citizen, forgetting that even a worm will sometimes turn.

Stock Raisers' Column.



This column will be devoted to the interests of breeders and stock raisers, and especial attention will be paid to matters pertaining to the breeding and development of light harness and trotting horses. Correspondence is invited.

THE Michigan Experiment Station, has been making experiments in breeding steers. Among other things the bulletin says: Knowing these animals as I did, I think I may safely say that as they, irrespective of breed, approached a certain stocky, blocky form that we designate as the "meat type" in the same degree they proved good feeders and economical consumers of food, within a reasonable age. On the other hand, as they approached the coarser or more loosely built organization, betraying a circulation more largely internal and less diffused, in about the same proportions were they less profitable consumers of food for meat purposes, and turned out a less desirable carcass for the block. If this be true, as I believe it is, it is a question of type rather than of breed, and that breed that affords the largest proportion in members of this type is, all things considered, the best, if any one thinks he knows which breed of steers that may be. In saving this I believe I only follow the teachings of this and all other experiments. Nor does it work any injustice to other types selected for and excelling in other special lines. All will make some beef. Only a few will make the best or the cheapest. The strong teaching in this is that moderate gains are not inconsistent with profit, nor lack of age inconsistent with quality.

THERE are changes going on in the West that few of the Eastern farmers are aware of, and these changes are likely to considerably advance the price of pork during the next year. We see by the papers that brood sows are being extensively shipped out of the Northwest or fattened for market, because of the failure of the corn crop, which is the main dependence in the West for feeding swine. A correspondent of the *Swine-Breeders' Journal* says: "Feeders that are fattening hogs and selling, are feeding fifty cent corn and selling pork at \$3.50 per hundred pounds at a loss on corn of fifteen cents on the bushel. There has been a wonderful disposition all around to unload the hog. No fall litters of pigs are being saved nor is there a desire to save them." This is declared to be a mistaken and suicidal business. But what are those without food going to do? If they have money, of course they can buy feed, but not many farmers are flush of money these times. He concludes: "Every pig that comes next spring will have a good future profit for its owner. You cannot afford to lose pigs that have been generated on dear or

cheap feed. You see that the hog business looks as though it will be good and very good for at least two years to come. There is surely a great falling off in the feeding cattle all over the Northwest. The fine hog breeders will certainly reap a good harvest for their fine pigs further on to supply the deficiency of the brood sows that have been shipped for the want of corn to keep them on the farm." These ideas are worthy the attention of Eastern as well as of Western farmers.

THE standard bred stallion Master King was sold at auction in Baltimore Monday, for the account of the estate of the late George B. Graham. Ernest Gittings was the purchaser for \$1000. Master King is one of the best bred youngsters in Maryland. He is a chestnut colt sired by Mainbrino King dam Myrtle by Almont, Jr. He was bred at C. J. Hamlin's Village Farm near Buffalo, New York.

IT is said that Sunol and Palo Alto are recovering their best form under their native skies, and the Coasters cherish hope that before New Years, California will hold not only the yearling, two year old, three years old and four year old records, but the world's record and the stallion record as well. The mare recently went a quarter in thirty seconds. She is also being jogged double with a steady horse. The probability is that if Palo Alto does not reduce his record before the first of the year, he will be seen on the Eastern tracks again next season in whatever free for alls and specials that can be arranged for him against all comers.

THE stallion Pamlico is one of the stars of the season, and in the line of a campaigner is about the best goods in the country. He has trotted in 18 races of 79 heats, an average of more than four heats to the race, winning a portion of the stakes in every race, 10 first moneys, five seconds, three thirds and one fourth, beating his record. He took a 3-year-old record of 2:37, on a southern half mile track, a 4-year-old record of 2:28½ in the seventh heat, and his 5-year-old record now stands at 2:16½, made in a fourth heat. Twenty-eight of the heats in which he has trotted this season have been below 2:20, and 64 of the total below 2:30. Margaret S., 2:12½, he has met twice defeating her both times; Leopard Rose, 2:15½, once, and distanced her in the third heat; Alfred S., 2:16½ to wagon, he has met twice losing the first but winning the second; Honri, 2:17, and J. B. Richardson, 2:17½, has been beaten twice; Mocking Bird, 2:16¾; Chelsea D., 2:18½; Kit Curry, 2:18½; Nobby, 2:18½; Fearnught, 2:19; Betty Jones, 2:19½, have each been beaten by him the only time they met. Rosaline Wilkes, 2:14½, and Prince Regent, 2:16½, are the only ones that have beaten Pamlico in fast time and not subsequently beaten by him in return.

WE see by the Frederick *Citizen* that the farmers of that county have been making investments in Hereford of late. This breed ought to be very profitable in this State. It is certainly one of the best for beef purposes and is a good all-around animal for the farm. We give on another page an illustration of a Hereford.

STEERS OF DIFFERENT BREEDS.

The Michigan Experiment Station has sent out a bulletin detailing the feeding and results of feeding steers of different breeds. The breeds selected were Galloway, Holstein-Friesian, Hereford, Shorthorn and Devon, there being two animals of each breed.

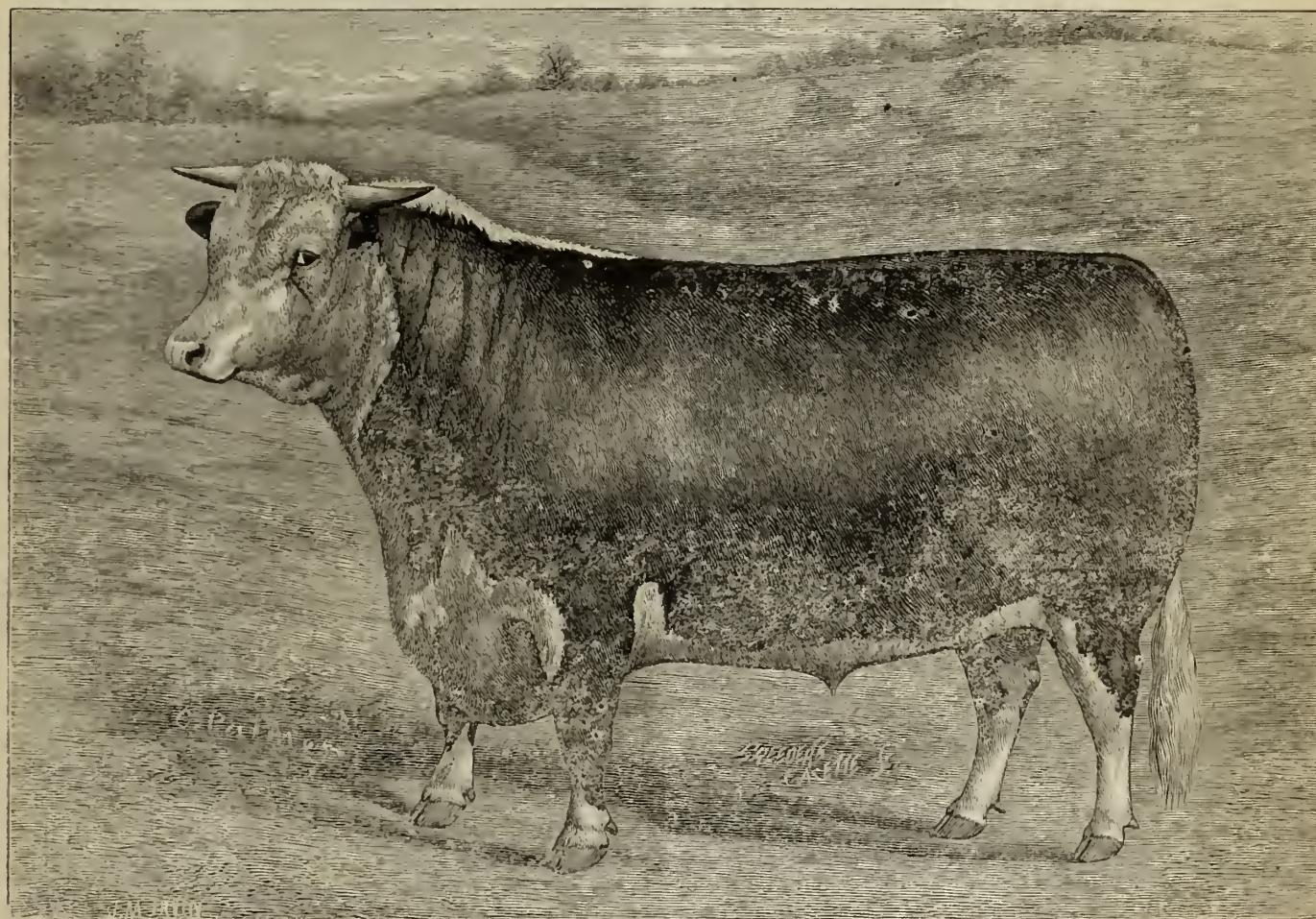
The following conclusions are reached as the result of the experiment :

1. The amount of food consumed is no index of the amount of gain it will produce, that is to its profitable use and conversion into meat.

dition to profitable feeding nor to quality. Disco was very medium and would never have been large.

8. That the "type" of animal has much to do with his ability to use food to good advantage in the production of meat. In this sense there is a distinction and a difference between the breeds for beef purposes.

9. Those nearest the "dairy type" made less gain to the food consumed, and it consisted more largely of fat on and about the internal organs. This type was also characterized by coarser extremities, a longer, flatter rib, more shrinkage of meat in cooling, and a higher percentage of cheap parts.



2. Neither is the total gain secured nor the rate of gain a sure guide to the economical use of food by the animal.

3. Large gains are not necessarily economical nor medium ones necessarily costly.

4. Age is the all-controlling circumstance that decides the rate of gain. The ration necessary to sustain the gain increases with age in about the same proportion as the weight of the animal but the gain remains about the same.

5. That "baby beef" is not inconsistent with high quality.

6. That nervousness is not a sign of a bad feeder.

7. That great development in size is not a necessary con-

dition to profitable feeding nor to quality. Disco was very medium and would never have been large.

8. That the "type" of animal has much to do with his ability to use food to good advantage in the production of meat. In this sense there is a distinction and a difference between the breeds for beef purposes.

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10. As between the beef breeds, no one can here suggest marked differences that cannot be sufficiently explained on other grounds. As in all experiences of this kind, greater differences are noticeable within the breeds than between them. The two Herefords were in this experiment nearly at extremes in everything but type, and in that respect as far apart as is allowable in Herefords. Aside from the Holsteins, no two animals of the lot differed more than did the two Herefords. Very close upon them came the two Galloways with marked differences in build. Our illustration is "Beau Real," a noted Hereford bull.

Home Reading.

CHRISTMAS CHIMES.

BY MRS. M. L. GADDESS.

Ring out ye happy Christmas bells,
For "Peace to Earth" your message tells,
"Good-will to all" ring out once more,
From land to land, from shore to shore,
Ring out glad bells! exultant ring,
While happy people loudly sing
"Hosannahs," the glad refrain.
Joy bells re-echo it again.
"Peace on earth, to men good-will"
Al-le-al-le-lu-ia;
Hark the angels sing it still,
Hal-le-hal-le-luia.
Ring out glad bells your notes so sweet,
The hills and valleys will repeat,
I hear the tones now softly steal,
And then a jubilata peal
Glad tidings. "Peace on earth, good-will"
Ring out again, we would not still
Your notes of joy; but join the song,
The glad Hosannahs to prolong.
Let lilies rear their stately heads,
And violets sweetest perfume shed,
Around the altar where we raise,
To "Bethlehem's Babe" a song of praise,
"Peace on earth, to men good-will"
Al-le-al-le-lu-ia.
Hark the angels sing it still
Hal-le-hal-le-lu-ia.

A SUGGESTIVE INCIDENT.

There is hope for the world while a child's cry speaks louder in a busy city than a trumpet's blast. When Chestnut Street, just below Broad, in Philadelphia, was thronged most closely on a recent afternoon, a toddling child, with sobs and tears, cried out for "Mamma," as if she were all alone in the world. At once the crowd was stayed. Fashionable shoppers, and business men, and careless loungers, and hurrying laborers, all stopped, with interest in their faces, to know the meaning of that cry. And when it was seen that it was really a lost child, every person in that city throng was moved by a common purpose of giving help to that child, or of showing sympathy with it. All business was suspended for the time being; and men and women passed the word along that the lost child was here, and asked anxiously where the mother could be. And when, after a while, the mother was found, and the child was restored to her, a deep sigh of relief went up from many

"With the reverend gentleman's belief we have no criticism to offer. Like all others, he is compelled to believe what he thinks is true. But how one believing as he does can laugh and joke is what amazes us. Did we believe that all the trillions of the human family who have lived, except infinitesimally small number, were lost, we could never laugh, or even smile. If that be true, all human

a troubled heart, and smiles came again on tearful faces, as the whirl of business was resumed, and the incident of the moment became a thing of the past. It is such incidents as this that show that every heart is human, and that those who work and watch for souls need not toil without hope of sympathy from others, but may be sure that, in God's world, God's little ones have still a place in the interest and the love of all.

"ARE THERE FEW THAT BE SAVED?"

The editor of the *Lawson (Md.) Courier* has well-defined views on many articles of the current orthodoxy, and not seldom expresses the same in his journal. He writes in a recent number as follows: "In conversation with a clergyman who has the reputation of possessing more than average ability and piety, we asked, 'Do you believe that faith in Jesus Christ, repentance toward God, regeneration and a holy life in this world are necessary to secure salvation in the next world?' His answer was 'Most assuredly I do.' Then we inquired 'About what proportion of the human family that has now lived will be saved?' He answered, 'A very small portion,' and quoted in proof of his assertion the

answer that Jesus made to the question at the head of this article: 'Strive to enter in at the straight gate, for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in and shall not be able.' During our conversation he remarked, 'Of the 106,000,000 members of Protestant churches not one-half profess to believe in regeneration, and a very large portion of those who do believe in regeneration give no evidence of regeneration by living a holy life.' Our conversation was interrupted by the entrance of a friend of the clergyman in the car, with whom he engaged in jokes and laughter.

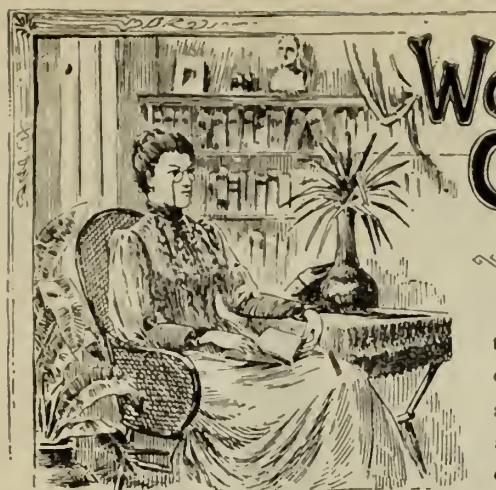
GOLDEN WORDS.

Aspire toward perfection, but recognize an imperfection. The universe is kept by God, an everlasting school. Truth is everywhere waiting for us to apprehend it. Live in this boundless universe as fresh observers. We must earn what we would have. God reaches us good things with his own hands. Always trying to do better to day than yesterday.

It is hard to say how much we could forgive ourselves if we were secure from judgment by another whose opinion is the breathing medium of all our joy; who brings to us, with close pressure and immediate sequence, that judgment of the Invisible and Universal which a self-flattery and the world's tolerance would easily melt and disperse. In this way, our brother may be in the stead of God to us; and his opinion, which has pierced even to the joints and marrow, may be our virtue in the making.

Let the weakest, let the humblest remember, that in his daily course he can, if he will, shed around him almost a heaven. Kindly words, sympathizing attentions, watchfulness against wounding men's sensitiveness—these cost very little, but are priceless in their value. Are they not the staple of our daily happiness? From hour to hour, from moment, to moment we are supported, blest, by small kindnesses.

Every duty, even the least duty, involves the whole principle of obedience. And little duties make the will dutiful, that is, supple and prompt to obey. Little obediences lead into great. The daily round of duty is full of probation and discipline; it trains the will, heart and conscience. We need not to be prophets or apostles. The commonest life may be full of perfection. The duties of home are a discipline for the ministries of heaven.



WOMAN'S CORNER.

♪ MRS. MARY L. GADDESS, • EDITRESS.

This department of THE FARMER will be made of special worth to the ladies of the farmer's household. Fashions in dress, latest ideas of ornamentation, flowers, etiquette, and all subjects in which they may be interested will be fully discussed and in a chatty manner. Mrs. GADDESS, the editress, a well-known writer of this city, cordially invites correspondence on matters of interest in this column and will answer any questions with pleasure.

We hope that everybody, old and young, has passed a pleasant Christmas day, and all who received gifts either great or small, appreciated the feelings that prompted it; so, with a heart full of good wishes, we clear up the remnants of the feast.

What a blessing these landmarks by the way are to humanity, amid the toil and bustle of life! The busiest of all will stop and for a while forget the crops, trade and state of the markets. It is said the American people go through the world faster than any other race, are more determined in the pursuit of wealth, and take less rest and pleasure. We are not prepared to fully endorse all that is said in that direction, yet a little wholesome common sense reasoning will show that as machinery of all sorts wears out, so the brain and heart will not stand constant effort. Let us have holidays now and then, and not permit work to intrude upon these seasons of relaxation that the best results may be assured; not only rest, but enjoyment of the holiday season must come, for if we all the while are fretting over the loss of time, nerve forces are strained, and it were just as well to keep up the treadmill for we will gain nothing.

Of course, all these wise thoughts are not mine alone. Even the Christmas rest would not fortify the brain sufficiently to produce such words of wisdom, but deep thinkers and earnest workers for the good of the multitudes have studied every plan to help ameliorate the weariness and toil of life, and they urge more rest and relaxation. Let us take heed, for great waste of strength means sad results at last. Paralysis, Apoplexy, and such terrible diseases seems very frequent and should teach a lesson. "Make haste slowly." Let the New Year with a new page have that motto inscribed on it.

The fashion of receiving on New Years has died out with a few exceptions everywhere; but in Washington where it is almost a necessity, it was carried to such an excess that it became ridiculous, and when once that happens the thing is doomed. With it of course the New Year's calling cards went too, and now the first day of the year seems to be regarded as a sort of halfway holiday; indeed, rather out of place on the list, for the first page in the new book many would rather see full of business. As a legal holiday, it is not a success anywhere but at the capital.

There seems to be a general impression that there will be

a decided advance in goods. The storekeepers frankly tell shoppers to buy enough now for they cannot duplicate at the same rates.

Even the best housekeepers do not object to a few hints now and then toward expediting the daily work and it is well to know that baking powders render pie crust brittle; in using lard alone for shortening, always remember a pinch of salt must be added, while with butter none is required. Indeed, sometimes it is best to wash out the butter before using, especially if it has been put away in brine.

For puff paste a very simple recipe for one pie is: one heaping cupful of flour, one half saltspoon salt, one tablespoonful lard, with ice cold water enough to form a stiff dough.—Butter makes a richer, browner paste, but the above is good enough for almost all occasions. The only important thing with pastry is to keep it cool, the colder the better; freezing will help it. Keep your hands away from the dough as much as possible, and when needful to touch it, do so very lightly. Ovens must be good and steady and not too hot, or it will burn before it bakes. It seems a very simple thing to talk about, but excellent housekeepers often say they fail with pie crust.

In the management of plants for window-gardening it is surprising what a "happy knack" some amateurs possess beyond others in keeping the plants in good order for a long time where once they have been established. There is now plenty of material in the shape of hardy palms, dracaenas, ferns, etc., in variety, that can be utilized for window-gardening. Terra cotta and other pots of various colors and patterns can be purchased at a cheap rate, in various sizes suitable for the position; but I must point out that when these are used it is necessary that the plants standing in them should be taken out at least once a week, for the purpose of emptying the water that may have accumulated, or it becomes stagnant, and will injure some of the plants in course of time. I have known instances when the smell arising has been very bad through a forgetfulness of this little matter, and this often occurs also with plants indoors which are used for room decoration. The best palms for windows are those which combine compactness with hardihood, some of which are comparatively cheap.

MRS. M. L. GADDESS.

Markets.

BALTIMORE, DEC. 24, 1890.

The holiday dullness in the wholesale markets has been very marked. Southern wheat is firm and marked at previous prices while corn is in liberal receipt and easier. Oats are plenty at lower range, while rye is quiet and easier. Flour is quiet and steady. Of seeds, clover is firm and higher, with the others unchanged. Hay is steady, and eggs are a little lower, following liberal receipts. Spot wheat..... \$ 96 a 96½.. December 96 a 96½.. May 1 02½ a 1 02½ Southern Fultz 95 a 1 03. Longberry 98 a 1 03. Stock..... 694,990. Yellow corn..... 55 a 57½. White do..... 55 a 57½. Mixed Spot..... 57 a.... The year 57a Stock..... 327,166 Oats, whole range..... 46 a 50. Stock..... 64,563 Rye, whole range..... 74 a 81 Stock 23,589 Family Flour, per barrel..... 4 50a 5 50 Clover Seed..... 5½a 7½ Timothy Seed 110 a 1 45 Hay, per ton..... 9 50a 11 00 Eggs, per dozen..... 25a....

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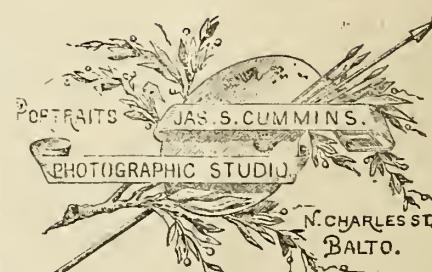
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Number 106

Photographic Supplies.

Fine Work a Specialty.

PLUM CULTURE.

Plum culture is generally too much neglected on our farms and in our gardens. The plum is an excellent fruit both for eating and putting up for future use. Every man who owns a garden spot should set enough plum trees to at least supply his own family with all that they want. If not raised at home, the supply obtained is likely to be scanty, at the best. The plum is not a difficult fruit to raise. A few of the hardy varieties, well cared for, will be sufficient to afford an ample supply for home use. Many of the plum trees purchased from the nurseries, die after having been set one or two years, but that should not be permitted to discourage further attempts. If one can obtain small pomegranate trees, or more properly Canadian plum trees, on which to graft the varieties of plums desired, he will obtain better, harder and longer-lived trees than he will buy of the nurseries. The seedling pomegranates are preferable to the suckers that spring so readily. The suckers are more prone to send up suckers in turn, to the detriment of the tree, weakening the growth of the main stock, besides being a nuisance in the garden. The seedlings are less likely to send up suckers.

The plum needs a moist, rich soil, and is benefitted by liberal manuring, with strong manures like poultry and hog manure. Poultry and pigs allowed to run in plum orchards are beneficial to the trees and keep the insects in check. The plum orchard should always be planted near the poultry house so as to be included in the poultry yard. Some regard poultry as the best protection to the plums to keep off the curculio. If it is desired to bring the trees to early bearing, the growth of wood for the year should be cut back about one-half, commencing about the last of September so as to promote the development of the fruit buds. If the tree makes slow growth and it is desired to quicken the growth of wood, it is advisable to cut back the shoots a little in spring and thin out superfluous shoots. Plum trees generally come into bearing early and are not very long-lived, therefore the grower should expect to set new trees in season to have them ready to take the place of the old trees. Old trees do not generally bear very well, and when they begin to show signs of feebleness, it is well to remove them and supply their places with young trees. The Lombard, Bradshaw, Niagara, McLoughlin, Washington and Morse's Arctic are all good varieties and reliable, and there are many other good varieties.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

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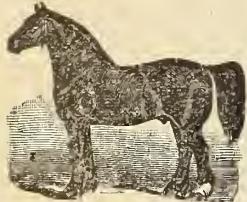
A GREAT WAY TO MAKE MONEY.

Mr. Editor:

The "help or the talents" plan of raising money for mission work was new to me, but our Mission Band each agreed to invest \$3. Some always made wonderful investments, but I felt sure I could not even double my "talent." During the week while reading your paper, I concluded to buy a Plater. I sent \$3 to W. H. Griffith & Co., Zanesville, Ohio, got a plater and went to work plating spoons, knives, forks and jewelry, and in a month I had cleared \$116.40, and done all the work after school; in three months I cleared \$406. This is certainly a rare chance to make money with ease and rapidity.

MARY BRITTON.

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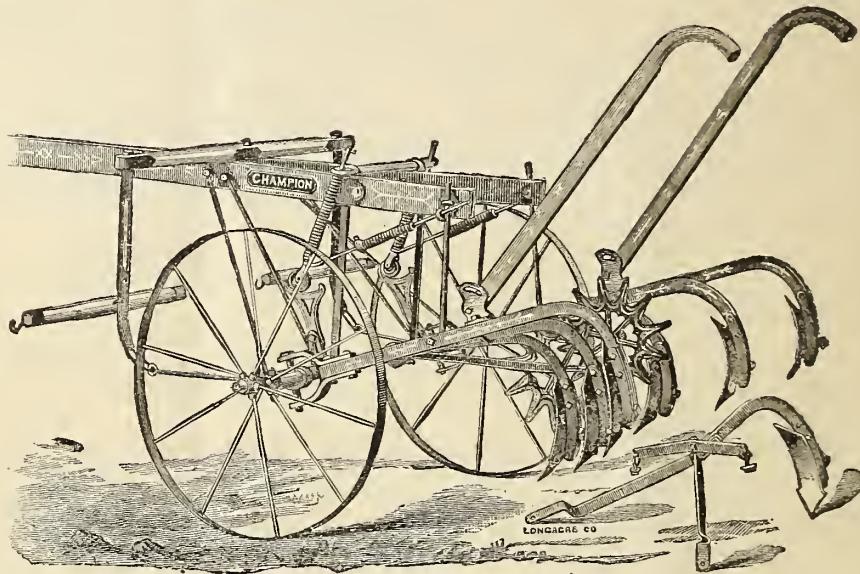
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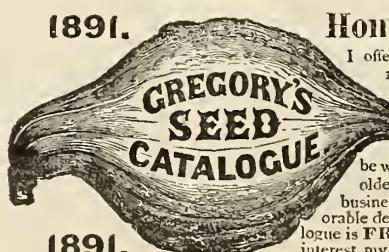
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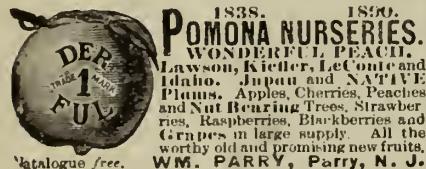
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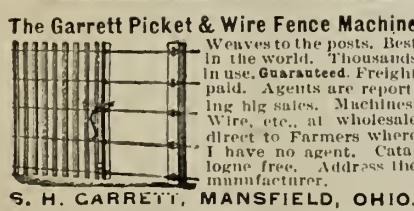


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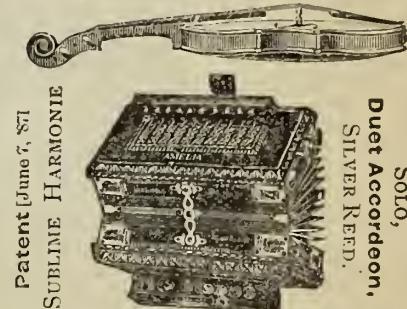
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Mrs. Hayfork—Anything fer me?

Rural postmaster—I don't see nothin'.

Mrs. Hayfork—I was expectin' a letter er postal from Aunt Sally Spriggs, tellin' what day she was comin'.

Rural postmaster (calling to his wife) Did ye see a postal from Mrs. Hayfork's Aunt Salley, tellin' what day she was comin'?

His wife—Yes; she's comin' Thursday.

Miss Beacon Street (of Boston)—I understand that you found a grand piano in your stocking on Christmas morning. Miss Livewayte (of Chicago)—Yes; and I understand that some one put a lead pencil in your stocking and filled it up.

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